

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 10-23 are pending in the application. In response to the Office Action, applicants have amended claims 1, 7, 8, 10, 15, 17, 18, and 23 and canceled claim 9 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Claims 1-8 and 10-23 remain in this application and are now pending for reconsideration.

Claims 7, 15, and 23 were object to due to informalities in the claims. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested in view of the amendments to these claims as set forth above.

The Abstract of the Disclosure was objected to as being less than 50 words. Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested in view of the amendment to the Abstract as set forth above.

Claims 1-4 and 17-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Buhrgard et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,671,255). Claims 8-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(e) as being anticipated by Craddock et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0005039). Claims 5-7 and 21-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Buhrgard et al. in view of Craddock et al.

Buhrgard et al. discloses a method for the relative flow control of a data flow, and a switch in which the method may be applied. A buffer unit that reaches a certain degree of fullness sends a message to all units from which it receives data that it cannot receive any more data or that it can only receive at a reduced rate. The message is forwarded by each unit that

receives it, to each unit from which it receives data and comprises a level indicator field, which is incremented for each unit it passes. For each unit passed a field is also added, identifying the unit from which it was received. Each unit is denoted by its number among all units receiving packets from the level above it. The message may be valid either for a certain period of time or until a new message is transmitted indicating that the problems have ceased.

The Examiner has asserted that Buhrgard discloses at column 4, lines 21-38 ‘determining whether if there are pre-post buffers specified for a client upon registration by the client’, that Buhrgard discloses at column 5, lines 16-31 and in Fig 3 that ‘if there are pre-post receive buffers specified for the client, posting client specified receive buffers at management queue pairs (QPs) to receive the incoming data message’, and that Buhrgard discloses at column 5, lines 32-42 ‘if no pre-post receive buffers are specified for the client, posting a default number of receive buffers at the management queue pairs (QPs) to receive the incoming data message’.

The Examiner has also asserted that Buhrgard specifically teaches buffer structure where each level there are buffer groups and designated with specific numbers as detailed at column 5, lines 21-31 that corresponds to buffers at management queue pairs. Even if this last assertion is true, the Applicants respectfully point out that the portions of the disclosure relied upon by the Examiner do not disclose or suggest at least the claimed determining whether there are pre-post receive buffers specified for a client upon registration by the client, if there are pre-post buffers specified for the client, posting client specified receive buffers at the management queue pairs (QPs) to receive the incoming data message, and if no pre-post receive buffers are specified for the client, posting a default number of receive buffers at the management queue pairs (QPs) to

receive the incoming data message. If this rejection is maintained the Applicants respectfully request a more detailed explanation of this assertion by the Examiner.

The Craddock et al. publication discloses end node partitioning using local identifiers. A mechanism is provided to allow a single physical component to appear as multiple components each with unique control levels. End node partitioning for a physical element is accomplished by selecting a configuration of the physical element, probing a port associated with the physical element with a subnet management packet, and in response to detecting a switch associated with the port, assigning a local identifier to the port resulting in a configuration change of the physical element.

The Examiner has asserted that Craddock discloses at page 4, column 2, 0051 ‘determining whether if there are pre-post buffers specified for a client upon registration by the client’, that Craddock discloses at page 3, column 2, 0038 ‘if there are pre-post receive buffers specified for the client, posting client specified receive buffers at management queue pairs (QPs) to receive the incoming data message’, and that Craddock discloses at page 4, column 1, 0043 ‘if no pre-post receive buffers are specified for the client, posting a default number of receive buffers at the management queue pairs (QPs) to receive the incoming data message’. The Applicants respectfully point out that the portions of the disclosure relied upon by the Examiner do not disclose or suggest at least the claimed determining whether there are pre-post receive buffers specified for a client upon registration by the client, if there are pre-post buffers specified for the client, posting client specified receive buffers at the management queue pairs (QPs) to receive the incoming data message, and if no pre-post receive buffers are specified for the client,

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posting a default number of receive buffers at the management queue pairs (QPs) to receive the incoming data message. If this rejection is maintained the Applicants respectfully request a more detailed explanation of this assertion by the Examiner, since the Applicants do not understand the Examiner's assertion that these claimed features are present in the Craddock et al. patent.

Neither of the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose or suggest at least claimed features of determining whether there are pre-post receive buffers specified for a client upon registration by the client, if there are pre-post receive buffers specified for the client, posting client specified receive buffers at management queue pairs (QPs) to receive the incoming data message, and if no pre-post receive buffers are specified for the client, posting a default number of receive buffers at the management queue pairs (QPs) to receive the incoming data message. The Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections in the outstanding Office Action for at least the reasons set forth above.

In view of the foregoing, the application is considered to be in condition for allowance. Early notification of the same is earnestly solicited. If there are any questions regarding the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the following telephone number: 815-885-2389.

Respectfully submitted,

February 22, 2005

Date



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